Postmaster Tells the Story of a Famous Dog

By Acting Postmaster
Richard L. Wingfield

Because so much is said these days about dogs biting mailmen, I think it would be interesting to tell one of the greatest dog stories of all time — involving a dog and mailmen.

Perhaps, in telling this, I can get across some of my own feelings on this matter — that many dogs are good friends of our postal employees and many others can be taught to regard mailmen as their friends.

But to get back to my story—it is a story about "Owney, the Postal Dog." I have obtained it from the Post Office Department in Washington. It was originally written by Ruth Thompson for the Modern School Readers Book Four, and was based on information supplied by the Postal Service:

A dog, homeless and hungry and shivering from cold, one day in 1888, crept into the Post Office at Albany, New York. The clerks were very busy and did not notice him, so he huddled on a pile of mail bags and fell asleep.

The next day the mail clerks found him.

They felt sorry for the dog and not have the heart to drive him out into the cold again, for he had such a wistful look in his eyes and such a pleading wag to his tail.

So when lunch time came, the clerks shared their lunches with him, and it may have been that which started the dog's love for the men in the Post Office, and in fact, for all men who handeld the mail for Uncle Sam.

As the weeks passed, the little visitor made the post office his home. As he did not seem to belong to anyone, he was an adopted son. The men named him "Owney."

If you have ever owned a dog you know how intelligent a dog is sometimes. Owney was an intelligent animal. He watched the mail bags come and go and seemed to regard them as his friends. Perhaps it was his curiosity that led him to make a trip with the mail bags. It is certain that he felt safe any place the bags went and with the men who handled them. He was often gone on a trip for several weeks and then he would return to the Albany post office.

The mail clerks were afraid that Owney would get lost. They bought him a collar and on it they placed his name and address. Then they fastened a card to the collar asking postal clerks to attach the name of any place that Owney visited.

Owney very soon started out on visits all over the United States. He carried so many tags that they were too heavy for him. The postmaster felt sorry for him. The postmaster load. So he had a harness made and Owney could then take his tags with him very comfortably.

The time came when Owney went around the world. He was in the city of Tacoma, Washington, when the mail bags were being loaded for Japan and China. When the post office men saw that Owney surely meant to go abroad, too, they gave hime a letter of introduction to the postal people in many parts of the world. Then Owney was the guest of the captain of the ship. He had a glorious trip. With his harness carrying his tags and medals, he was a very important passenger on board. Owney was well received and properly treated in foreign countries.

When he arrived in Japan, the Mikado gave him a passport which bore the seal of the empire. In China the emperor made him welcome and Owney saw many of the leading merchants. Everywhere that Owney went he was an object of great interest. He was such a friendly and intelligent dog that he made many friends.

Owney landed in New York from his trip abroad. From there he crosed the country to Tacoma, his starting point. He had been gone just 132 days on his trip.

Owney was the greatest dog traveler in the world. He had no home except the mail sacks on steamers and mail trains. His dearest friends were always the postal clerks. The men with whom Owney chose to ride were always regarded as the lucky ones. It was said that Owney carried good luck with him, for no accident ever happened on a train on which Owney was traveling. It always flattered and pleased the men when Owney chose to travel with them.

When Owneys journeys were over, it was found that he had about 200 checks, medals and certificates.

Incidently, when you get to the National Capital, look up Owney. He is mounted and on display in the world-famous Smithsonian Institution.

KNOW THE WEATHER

By E. H. Sims

What are isobars and what do they indicate on a weather map, such as carried in newspapers?

Isobars are a simple mapmaker's way of showing where barometric pressure (the weight of the layer of gas above the earth) is the same. Usually you'll observe that isobars are circular lines, ringing either a high or low pressure area.

Just as a military map shows elevation in circular lines, each line representing a certain barometer reading.

The pressure lines are nowadays numbered in milibars, which is just another system of measuring the weight of air. You can easily see where the center of a high or low pressure area is by noting the highest milibar line, which will usually be a small circle.

The higher the milibar number on the line, the better the weather is likely to be inside the circle it forms.

Married Life

A smart wife usually knows a lot more about her husband than she ever reveals to him. Unfortunately she often reveals it to her best friend. —Ihre Freudin.

DOCTORS, DENTISTS AFFECTED IN RULING OF SELECTIVE SERVICE

Doctors and dentists, since July 1, are liable for military service under the Selective Service law in the same way as other registrants —ending the special liability of these professional groups which has been in effect since 1950, Captain Thomas W. White, State Director of Selective Service for Virginia said today.

The former "Doctor Draft" act, physicians and dentists were liable for service at older ages than other registrants — at one time up to age 50. Under the new law, the upper limit of the age of liability for doctors and dentists is 35 for those deferred on or after June 19, 1951 —the same provisions that apply to all men.

The new amendments to the basic draft act are expected to supply the military forces with their medical specialist needs. The amendments mean that no doctor or dentist older than 32 at the time the amendments were adopted is liable for service under the draft law.

The changes also provide for selection of these professional men apart from other registrants; for ordering such specialists to active duty from the Reserve; and prohibits the induction of doctors and dentists who apply or have applied for Reserve commissions and have been rejected solely on the basis of physical disqualification.

Virtually all doctors and dentists who will complete their training over the next two years were, in the past, deferred for study and are liable to age 35, the military services estimate. With the service liability extended by such deferments to age 35, practically all of these specialists are expected to apply for commissions in the armed forces reserve components and to perform periods of obligated active duty, following commissioning, as needed by the services.

But the authority to draft younger doctors and dentists is retained in the law in the event it is needed, the State Director raid.

No decision has been announced on the proposed movement of the New York Giants and Brooklyn Dodgers to the West Coast.

Health and Beauty

Perfume has been important to women for hundreds of years. The composition of a perfume is a complex affair. It would take a scientist to explain the ingredients and "why" to you.

The best thing to do is to put your trust in the name of a good manufacturer and a reputable shop. The seal should be unbroken.

It is a good idea to buy a small amount of a new scent and give it a try before investing in a large bottle. Your body chemistry can change the scent of a perfume. Keep trying until you find one that can really become a part of you.

Lastingness is not necessarily the test of a good perfume. Here again your body chemistry comes into play. In general, the heavy, spicy scents last longer than the light floral ones.

Perfume will outcling and outlast cologne. This is why it is more expensive. Most perfumes will not live longer than four hours on the skin. For this reason, it is a good idea to carry a small flacon in your purse.

American women often do not wear enough perfume. The best way to apply perfume is to spray it on the pulse spots — temples, throat, inner wrists and the crook of the arms.

It is wise not to apply perfume directly to fabric or fur. Never put perfume on white or pale colored furs or fabrics.

Once you have opened a bottle of perfume, use it. Perfume evaporates and its scent will change if left to age. Seal perfume very carefully each time it is opened.

Evergreen

Evergreen, July 16.- Rev. Robert Harris spent last week at Viewmont Camp.

Bobby Bailey, of Warwick, is spending this week with his aunt, Mrs. Z. E. Cheatham.

Mrs. Clara Garett visited Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Inge and family Sunday P. M.

The Bethany Home Demonstration Club had a picnic on the lawn at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ryland Staples Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Layne visited in the home of Mrs. Rachel McFadden Sunday P. M.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Shorter, of Lynchburg spent the week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Harris.

Mrs. Christine Childress and daughters, Pat and [illegible] spent a week in North Carolina [illegible] son.

Nancy Hoge [illegible] some time with her [illegible] bridge.

Mrs. Fox Fergu[illegible] day in the home of [illegible] Paulette.

Mr. and Mrs. [illegible] family have moved [illegible] after visiting relatives [illegible]

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Washington Notes

[illegible]HOLDS

[illegible] married couples are living and liking it—than ever before, [illegible] of last March, only 1,200,000 [illegible] $3,900,000 married [illegible] United States did not [illegible] their own households, according to the Census Bureau. This [illegible] about 2,000,000 who [illegible] in the households of [illegible] and nearly 3,000,000 ago.

[illegible] PRICES

[illegible] Bureau received for their [illegible] increased four - tenths of [illegible] during the month ending [illegible] 15, according to the Agriculture Department. Prices paid by farmers for goods and services remained unchanged over the same period. Farm prices received for [illegible] fruit and cotton [illegible] responsible for the [illegible] increase. However, the [illegible] still four-tenths of one [illegible] below that of a year ago, [illegible] 3 per cent under the [illegible] February, 1951.

[illegible]PORTERS

[illegible] has announced it is [illegible] helicopters, its flying [illegible] and several types of light [illegible] for Indian tribes, to replace [illegible] designations. The aim is [illegible] more colorful titles, [illegible] numerical confusion, and [illegible] the likelihood of numerical [illegible]

[illegible] TO PHILIPPINES

[illegible] relinquishing to Philippine independence, President Eisenhower [illegible] Eisenhower handing back valuable historical documents and [illegible] seized during the Philippine [illegible] in 1898. The papers, [illegible] the cases, will be sent to [illegible] Philippines after they have [illegible] by the National [illegible]

[illegible] AID

[illegible] and outlays totaled about [illegible] in the first three [illegible] of this year, bringing to [illegible] $10,000,000,000 the total [illegible] and deliveries of goods [illegible] by the United States [illegible] foreign nations since [illegible] War II. Aid in the first [illegible] of 1957 was about 30 [illegible] ahead of the total in the [illegible] quarters of 1956.

[illegible]SONAL INCOME

[illegible] income in the nation [illegible] at a seasonally adjusted annual rate [illegible] during May, according [illegible] Commerce Department, [illegible] personal income on a [illegible] adjusted basis had [illegible] billion dollars over April [illegible] $5 billion over May, 1956.

[illegible] HOMES COSTLY

[illegible] one-fifth of the families [illegible] American cities have [illegible] income to justify the purchase [illegible] a new house, according to [illegible] National Housing Conference, [illegible] organization establishment. A survey of eleven cities showed that the minimum price of new one-family houses ranged from $8,490 for a row house in Philadelphia, to $13,900 for a detached dwelling in Milwaukee. The median was $11,450 in Kansas City. A family would have to have an annual income of $7,156 to meet the costs of an $11,450 house.

DOOR-TO-DOOR SELLING

It is interesting to learn that door-to-door selling accounts for only two per cent of the total retail business in the United States today. This is in marked contrast with the figures of just a few years back.

SICKNESS COSTLY

Prolonged sickness costs the average worker in private industry 13 per cent of his annual income, according to a five-year study of non-occupational illness recently conducted. The average wage of the employees covered by the study was $3,485 a year. Lost wages cost the average worker $323 and, in addition to this, he spent $129 in medical costs. Benefits from group insurance plans do not cover the costs of illness to the worker. Almost 71 per cent of the benefits go for hospitalization and a little over 24 per cent for surgical costs.

In FASHION now

Hair styles change with each season. It is fine for a young thing of sixteen to keep up with the latest craze.

However, if you are a woman of thirty-six or over, you would do well to concentrate on finding a style that really does something for you.

Chances are that your face will appear more youthful if the general line is up. The hair should be smooth. Leave the careless, windblown look to the younger girl.

If your hair has begun to turn gray, the color will be much more becoming and softer than any dye job you can get. Remember that gray itself is a color.

Use a rinse to play up the particular color of gray of your hair. The purple or blue look is a thing of the past and very hard on your features.

Unless you are blessed with naturally curly hair, your best possible investment will be a fine permanent. Some permanents actually impart life-giving oils to the hair, and give it more luster and elasticity.

Hats and jewelry make the becoming hair style even more important, fashion-wise. It will be worth the cost to go to a good hair stylist and have him or her design a style just for you.

Appomattox is a growing town.

Subscription rate: $2.00 a year; payable in advance.

Stonewall

Stonewall, July 16.- We are surely having hot and dry weather. Hope it soon gets better.

Miss Lizzie Rice, of Richmond, is spending some time with Mrs. S. E. Anderson and Mrs. Martin Kraus.

Mrs. Florence Carson, of Richmond is visiting Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Stratton.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Beard and Lawrence spent the week-end in Norfolk with Mr. and Mrs. Joe Stephenson, Jr. They brought Janet Anne Stephenson home with them to spend a while with them and her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Chick.

Mr. Walter Lee spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. Tilden Lee, and attended the wedding of his niece, Miss Louise Burnett to Mr. Harry Gordon Lawson at Hebron Church on Saturday evening.

Mr. W. C. Chick, Mr. and Mrs. Otis Gilliam, Mr. Claude Chick and Misses Lizzie and Iva Young, of Prospect visited Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Chick on Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Irby Wheeler received word last Monday of a granddaughter, born to Mr. and Mrs. Bob Wheeler, of Richmond. Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler expect to visit their son and family this week.

So glad to know that Mr. Harold Jones has received his discharge from the Army and is at home with his wife and baby son, in the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Irby Wheeler.

Mrs. Martin Kraus and Mrs. Marvin Stratton visited Mr. Marvin Stratton in Charlottesville Hospital on Saturday.

Glad to say that Mr. C. D. Carson is still getting on fine. Hope he will soon be real well once more.

Mr. and Mrs. Wash Wheeler and family, of Rustburg visited Mr. and Mrs. Tilden Lee on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Davidson and son, Edward spent Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Bondurant.

The Rev. and Mrs. Colie E. Rock and boys have returned home after spending several weeks on a vacation. Glad to have them back in our parsonage.

About The Home

By Frances Dell

Carpets represent a major investment and should have the best of care and cleaning. There are a few points that every owner of good carpeting would do well to remember.

Before carpeting is laid, examine the floor thoroughly for protruding nails. Fill in between floor boards and around baseboards with filler. If such cracks are allowed to remain, they make fine breeding spots for carpet beetles.

Rough or uneven floors and wide spaces between boards cause premature wear spots in carpets. A cushion under your carpet smooths out the floor's uneven spots and absorbs much of the friction. A cushion also adds to the sound-absorbing quality of a carpet.

Most new carpets "fluff" for a time at first. This is nothing to worry about as it is only the bits of lint left in the pile when the yarn is cut during manufacturing. Vacuuming a new rug every day will speed up this process.

If a carpet is to give long and satisfactory wear and retain its original color, it must be kept clean. Sand and dirt particles will work down into the base and will gradually cut the very important threads that form the base of the carpet. It is important to keep the floor under carpets dirt and dust free.

It does not hurt a carpet to be vacuumed for a short time each day. Weekly cleanings should be more thorough. This is the time to get under big pieces of furniture to clean the carpet they hide. It is a good idea to air a carpeted room once each week.

Carpets should be cleaned by a professional once every two years. In the meantime, spot cleaning can be done at home with carbon tetrachloride or any one of a number of dry-cleaning liquids with this as a base.

If the family puppy is not housebroken yet—use warm water first, then a dry-cleaning agent followed by more warm water.

Dial 2811 with Personals.

FREE MASS X-RAY SURVEYS ANNOUNCED

The Southside Tuberculosis Association will sponsor six Mass X-Ray Surveys this fall in cooperation with each individual County Health Department.

Dr. Francis J. Clements, Southside Health District Officer, has scheduled surveys in Prince Edward, Appomattox, Buckingham, and Cumberland Counties, October 28- November 22, 1957. Dr. E. C. Gates, Health Officer, has scheduled surveys in Amelia and Powhatan Counties November 11-15. Everyone 15 years of age or older should have a chest X-ray taken every year. Survey schedules for each county will be announced at a later date.

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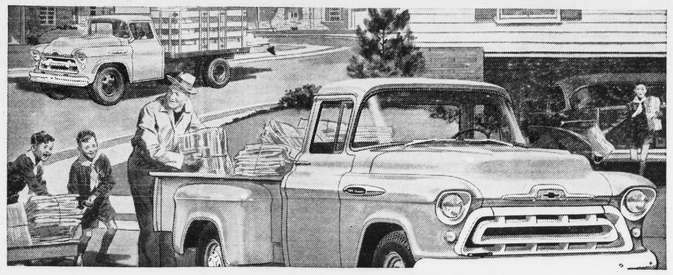

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